

**PATHOLOGICAL HISTOLOGY.** By Robertson F. Ogilvie, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P.(Ed.). Fourth edition. (Pp. xii + 506; figs. 295. 40s.). Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone.

THE appearance of a fourth edition of this book is evidence of its usefulness to students and practitioners interested in pathology. Its value lies in the unique collection of coloured plates. These are not intended as a substitute for the study of microscopic sections, but should serve only as a guide to them. There is perhaps a tendency to illustrate conditions under too high a magnification, and some may not accept some of the illustrations, such as figures 76, 89, 90, 157 and 194 as entirely satisfactory. Despite these trivial criticisms the work is most valuable and the reproductions compare very favourably with such coloured photo-micrographs as are available anywhere to-day. When the book is used beside the microscope—and it should only be used there—the accompanying text with its frequent discussion of incidence and ætiology is perhaps too detailed. The student might profit more by briefer notes which would guide him in the study of his histological sections and which would serve as models of how his own observations should be recorded.

**PRACTICAL THERAPEUTICS.** By Martin Emil Rhexuss, M.D., F.A.C.P., and Alison Howe Price, A.B., M.D. (Pp. xvii + 938. Plates 96. 114s.). London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1951.

THIS textbook, the work of seventeen contributors, is arranged in four sections:—I—General therapeutic principles; II—Symptomatic therapy; III—Treatment of specific disorders; IV—Special treatment. Section I contains much sound advice. Section IV deals with subjects ranging from psychotherapy to atomic warfare. Practical therapeutics is perhaps a misnomer since accounts of the ætiology, clinical features and differential diagnosis of many conditions are also given. Much of the information is presented in tabular or diagrammatic form. The authors state that they “use the visual system wherever possible and believe that one well chosen illustration is worth a thousand word.” However some may consider it unnecessary to illustrate the effects of an atomic explosion on the masonry in its vicinity. The book contains 938 pages printed in double columns and few will read it from cover to cover. Despite its length adequate explanation of many of the therapeutic measures described is not given. The book is therefore unlikely to be of any special value to the undergraduate. Its value as a work of reference is limited since no bibliography is given. The price reflects the rising cost of book production, and especially the cost of books originating in America, but many potential purchasers in this country will be deterred by the cost of the book.

J. F. P.

**EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DISEASES FOR THE GENERAL PRACTITIONER.** By William McKenzie, M.B., B.Chir., F.R.C.S. (Pp. vii + 136; fig. 9. 9s.). Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone, 1952.

THE author has succeeded in writing a small, easily read book on ear, nose and throat diseases for the general practitioner.

The style is free, and the usual text book sub-divisions of diseases into ætiology, pathology, diagnosis, etc., is carefully avoided. A short, sometimes rambling, but rather attractive talk on the various subjects is given. Many illustrative cases are quoted, but they are kept short and to the point. The author limits his description of clinical findings to those which can be ascertained by the general practitioner with a torch, a tongue depressor, an electric auroscope and a tuning fork. He gives clear advice about which cases can be treated by the general practitioner, and which should be referred for specialist treatment.

I can strongly recommend this little book to all general practitioners, but especially to those just commencing practice. They will find answers to many practical problems which will arise frequently in practice, and which will not have been covered in the crowded under-graduate curriculum.

K. H.